



EXECUTIVE ORDER 2018-32

ORDER ESTABLISHING USE OF THE NEVADA GREATER SAGE-GROUSE CONSERVATION PLAN AND CREDIT SYSTEM

WHEREAS, restoration and maintenance of the sagebrush ecosystem is essential to Nevada's sagebrush obligate species, domestic livestock, watersheds, biodiversity and productivity; and

WHEREAS, the 78th Nevada State Legislative Session (2013) established the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council as a statutory body "authorized to establish and carry out programs to preserve, restore and enhance sagebrush ecosystems"; and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain and enhance Greater Sage-Grouse populations and the habitats on which this species depends, the State of Nevada Sagebrush Ecosystem Council and partnering federal and local agencies developed and implemented the 2014 Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Plan (as amended) and the Nevada Conservation Credit System and Scientific Methods Document/Habitat Quantification Tool as the science based program to quantify habitat improvements and offset anthropogenic disturbances to Greater Sage-Grouse habitats; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the State of Nevada to continue efforts to protect and enhance Greater Sage-Grouse habitats; and

WHEREAS, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides: "The supreme executive power of this State, shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada."

NOW, THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Nevada and the United States, it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. The Sagebrush Ecosystem Council shall adopt regulations requiring compliance with the Nevada Sage-Grouse Conservation Plan and Nevada Conservation Credit System for the conservation of the Greater Sage-Grouse and their habitats using compensatory mitigation for anthropogenic disturbances on federal and state lands that cannot be avoided or further minimized as determined through the Conservation Credit System.
2. As these regulations are being developed and finalized, this Executive Order shall serve as direction to state agencies working with their federal counterparts and Nevada stakeholders to implement mitigation strategies in accordance with the Nevada Conservation Credit System.

3. Nevada's Conservation Credit System/Habitat Quantification Tool shall be used as the mechanism to quantify and mitigate direct and indirect impacts to Greater Sage-Grouse habitats as a result of anthropogenic disturbance activities or projects occurring within Greater Sage-Grouse designated habitat areas. The Nevada Conservation Credit System shall be required on lands managed by state or federal agencies. Private land owners will not be required to utilize the Conservation Credit System on private lands but can do so voluntarily.
4. This Executive Order, together with the Nevada Sage-Grouse Conservation Plan and Nevada Conservation Credit System, constitute Nevada's strategy and primary mechanism to conserve and ensure conservation of the Greater Sage-Grouse and their habitats.
5. This Executive Order shall remain in effect in perpetuity, unless rescinded at a future date.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 7th day of December, in the year two thousand eighteen.




Governor of the State of Nevada

By the Governor:


Secretary of State


Deputy Secretary of State